

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 21st April 2017

"Living & Learning together" www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk



Our **School Christian Values** are Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion.
This week we continued to find out about Easter and the importance of reconciliation.

Reminders

Please remember to book with the school office at least 24 hours in advance if you require After School Club.

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Please can we have your Easter Hop Sponsor Money back into school as soon as possible.

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Early Morning

Please can we ask that children are not on the School site until 8:30am.

There is no supervision on the playground until after this time.

Parent concerns

If at any time you have a concern, please do make an appointment in the office to talk to your class teacher or myself.

We are here to work with you.

Good Luck Mrs Tompsett!

Mrs Tompsett is running in the London Marathon on Sunday. We hope the weather holds and all goes well.



This Week in School

Welcome back to term 5. I hope you had a fabulous Easter break and the weather was certainly kind to us! It has been lovely to see photographs from the Easter services online- do have a look at the Church website (<http://www.st-barnabas.info/>).

We welcome Mrs Reeves in the School Office and Mrs Swannell who is working in Year 1. Warmest Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Mackinnon who welcomed baby Alfred over the Easter break. Mr Mackinnon has not been in school this week and we look forward to his return. It was lovely to see everyone back after the Easter break and looking so smart and ready to learn.

Mr Luckhurst came in and has started teaching PE to some of our classes and we have another coach working with us today. The children will be having PE every week and will be outside as much as they can be as they develop their athletic skills. Please can your child make sure they have their kit in school at all times and especially plimsolls or trainers.

With the warmer weather please can you check that all uniform is named and can I remind you that open-toed sandals are not part of our School uniform.

We look forward to a busy and fun term.

Feedback from Parent Questionnaires

During the School year we like to find out how we are doing and if there is anything we can improve upon. A questionnaire was given to Year 1 and above families and the results show:

86.5% agree or strongly agree that their child feels happy at school

86.3% agree or strongly agree that their child feels safe at our school.

84.7% agree or strongly agree that their child makes good progress at our school

86.5% agree or strongly agree that their child is well looked after.

These are positive results and we look forward to developing these areas further and show our School Values to the best we can.

One area which has been flagged up was the question regarding bullying. 11.7% of parents felt that bullying was not effectively dealt with in school. This shows there is a need for us, as a school, to share with Parents what we do in relation to managing behaviour, what bullying means and how we deal with the issue. With this in mind, we will be sharing information through the newsletter and also holding a meeting later in the term.

We also asked about how we communicate information and how we could improve. There is a positive response to the use of ParentMails although sometimes it was felt we sent out too many in one day. This can be difficult because sometimes when messages are urgent we feel it is better to let you know as soon as we can rather than at the end of the day.

It was felt that the website needed to be refreshed and this is something we are currently looking into. We also recognise the need to give notice on events especially when there is a cost involved and we are trying to give you dates as far in advance as we can.

Thank you to everyone who took part and the Acorn families who completed a questionnaire about their class. It helps us to work together to make us the best we can be!



Challenge:

Do all flowers have the same amount of petals?

Do any flowers have green flowers?

Willow Class News:

This week Willow Class have been busy learning about suffixes in English and writing sentences using them. In Maths, the children have enjoyed creating pictograms and block graphs about fruit, pets and colours. They have also been answering questions about the data they collected.

In Phonics we have been reviewing split digraphs. We have started to discuss our new topic about toys and changes over time. The children have been very excited about looking at pictures of historical and modern toys and discussing their favourite toys.

We started PE again this week and will be doing PE on the playground and field over the next term (weather permitting). It is important that the children have suitable PE shoes and kit in school on Mondays and Wednesdays particularly as missing items can affect the children's ability to participate safely and effectively in PE lessons

Lilac Class News:

In Maths this week we have been estimating and comparing acute, obtuse and reflex angles. We have also been drawing given angles and measuring them.

In English, we have been developing our poetry writing skills. Our main focus was to write poems about the sea using personification and to then perform them to the class. As a starting point to inspire us, we looked at a selection of poems about the sea using personification and looked at a variety of photographs of the sea. We wrote down descriptive phrases that portrayed the sea as either a man, woman, giant, monster, god or goddess.

In RE this week, Lilac Class have been thinking about Salvation and Atonement. We thought about what Salvation means and examined examples in both the Old and New Testament. In Art, we have started to develop our close observation skills by creating pastel drawings of shells. In Geography this week, we have been learning about how rivers are formed and we have been using an atlas to locate the oceans of the world and to label them onto our own map.

And lastly.....

Class newsletters will be coming home shortly. Please do remember a coat every day as the early mornings are still rather nippy!

Please remember not to park on the zig-zag lines before and after school.

Keep an eye on our raised beds over the next few weeks. The Beavers are about to begin their Gardeners Badge and are aiming to grow some exciting plants.

With best wishes
Moirá Duncombe
@StBarnabasSchoolTW



Rose Hill School
Coniston Avenue
Tunbridge Wells
Kent TN4 9SY

11am: open to NCT members
11.15am: open to general public
Bag your bargains until 12.30pm

Saturday 6th May 2017

BUYERS: NCT Nearly New Sales offer excellent quality used baby and children's items from 0-8 years. We're a bargain hunters paradise!

SELLERS: Clear the cupboards and raid the attic to earn cash from your redundant toys, out-grown clothes and disused prams and cots. You can leave your items for the sale and collect anything unsold at the end.

VOLUNTEERS: It's our wonderful volunteers that really make our events successful. If you help out at our Nearly New Sale you will:

- Pay a reduced commission as a BIG thank you (if you're a seller)
- Bag your bargains 30 minutes before the shoppers arrive
- Have fun, make new friends & help support our wonderful NCT initiatives

Find out more at:

www.nct.org.uk/branches/tunbridge
facebook.com/nnstunbridge
nns.tunbridgewells@nct.org.uk

SEE YOU THERE!